

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Katsuya Watanabe §
§
§
Conf. No.: 1679 § Group Art Unit: 2626
§
Appln. No.: 10/805,965 § Examiner: Thang V. Tran
§
Filing Date: March 22, 2004 § Attorney Docket No.: 10407-82US
§ (A3103MT-US1)
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECOGNIZING OPTICAL DISCS, OPTICAL
DISC DRIVE, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISTINGUISHING DATA
STORAGE LAYER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1) AND
§1.97(e)(1)

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1) and (a)(2) listing all patents, publications, applications, and/or other information being submitted for consideration which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Also enclosed are copies of the foreign publications cited therein but not copies of any U.S. patents in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). However, we will provide copies upon request.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

I hereby certify that each document cited in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a Notice of Reasons for Rejection dated April 10, 2007 from the Japanese Patent Office in counterpart Japanese Application No. 2004-072514 not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

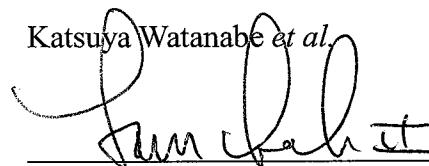
Application No. 10/805,965
Filed March 22, 2004
Attorney Docket No.: 10407-82US

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed documents be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Katsuya Watanabe *et al.*



LOUIS SICKLES II

Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 45,803

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7013
Telephone: 215-965-1200
Direct Dial: 215-965-1294
Facsimile: 215-965-1210
E-Mail: lsickles@akingump.com

LS/msm
Enclosures